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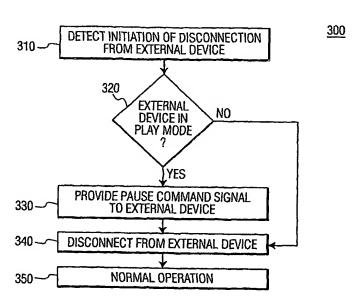
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLING AN EXTERNAL DEVICE USING AUTO-PLAY/AUTO-PAUSE **FUNCTIONS** 



(57) Abstract: An external device such as a digital recording/reproduction device may be controlled via a digital data bus using autoplay and/or auto-pause functions. According to an exemplary embodiment, a method (300/400/500) for controlling an external device includes detecting initiation of one of a disconnection from the external device and a connection to the external device (310/410), providing a pause command signal to the external device via a digital data bus if the initiation of the disconnection from the external device is detected (330), and providing a play command signal to the external device via the digital data bus if the initiation of the connection to the external device is detected (440).

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